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Bio-diversity== Is Varsity of life forms.....Is not a process, an agenda, a method.. It is the result of a process such as multiple use which will give rise to and support many life forms.

Biodiversity stewardship areas are not set aside areas that can be maintained in an artificial manner. The ecosystems on this earth are dynamic not static...To even consider that we can manage a natural system to stay the same is ludicrous and defies the most basic biological concepts...

The MDNR has attempted to support various programs to accomplish this impossible dream..Old growth, Return to pre-settlement, Natural areas, Biodiversity Stewardship areas, Living Legends...Same theme, different name. Same agenda , same result.

Restrict, replace, and remove....Non-development of resources....All concepts to enforce Agenda 21. Reject BSA!!!! Realize that a resource is a resource only when it can be of value to the existence of human forms on this earth...Rodney Stokes---No net loss of timber. Does that mean an increase in production? More harvest on non stewardardship lands ,, It states there will be no mineral development... Does it guarantee the consumptive uses that are presently carried out ? (Hunting, fishing, trapping, picking berries and mushrooms)Restrict,replace, and remove Latest scheme.. "Dark Skies Initiative" 22,000 acres of darkness..No lights ..No development.. Restrict,replace, and remove.. Right now as I speak there is a partnership involving several thousand dollars to an Ohio Nature conservancy group to reproduce the conditions required to support a butterfly...DU is getting another grant worth thousands to restore wetlands..Restrict, replace, remove..It is time to put the MDNR on course for the mission users and sports people have been paying for..Management that will produce the resources that have and will increase the ability of the land to support it's citizens...Wise use of our resources to benefit the greatest number for the longest time...

The Michigan Association of Timbermen

Living Legacy/Biodiversity Position Statement

The Michigan Association of Timbermen, February 2012

We recommend the use of three guiding principles or elements as the basis of the plan DNR would implement in a statewide biodiversity conservation program:

Ecosystem Representation – A statewide biodiversity conservation plan should 'contain, to the extent possible, multiple examples of all native species and ecological communities in sufficient number, distribution, and quality to ensure their long-term persistence...'

Functionality – an area or landscape designated for biodiversity conservation management should 'maintain focal species, communities, systems, and supporting ecological processes within their natural ranges of variability'.

Quality and Condition – Seek to include those areas having high abundance of rare, threatened or endangered species or natural communities, as well as areas having minimal human impact.

We support using timber harvesting as a tool to help maintain Biodiversity Stewardship Areas (BSA) and High Conservation Value areas (HCVA).

We oppose designating any State owned forestland that has been actively managed for forest products as part of the Biodiversity Conservation Plan.

We are opposed to managing Michigan's forests to reflect what was once present; this will not meet the current or future social needs of forest products.

The Michigan Association of Timbermen also believe that economic and social issues must be equally considered with environmental concerns prior to changing any designation in State owned forestland.

With over 1 million acres of land in Michigan currently protected, the Michigan Association of Timbermen want those lands to be incorporated into BSA's before any existing forestland under timber management is placed in a BSA.

From within the FAQ section of the Living Legacy web page of information the question is: "Will timber harvest still occur within BSA's designated on DNR lands?"

The response on the website is: "Possibly. For DNR lands with current timber contracts that are within the BSA's, these will be honored. Timber harvest within newly designated BSA's may still happen if it is determined that the harvesting of the timber benefits or does not interfere with the long term management goals for and sustainability of that area."

Again, the Michigan Association of Timbermen "oppose designating any State owned forestland that has been actively managed for forest products as part of the Biodiversity Conservation Plan."

